

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A snowboard boot strap anchor comprising:
a raised portion having at least three separate mounting locations; and
a thin base portion associated with the raised portion for attachment to an upper portion of the snowboard boot.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the strap anchor is a unitary member.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the strap anchor is made of at least one of a plastic, rubber, a composite material or metal material.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one mounting location includes a sleeve for receiving a fastener device.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one mounting location includes a means for receiving a tool-less fastener device.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the raised portion has a height that is equal to at least seventy-five percent of the combined thickness of at least two straps of a strap arrangement.
7. (Currently Amended) A snowboard boot strap mounting system comprising:
a first strap anchor having a raised portion containing at least three separate mounting locations, the strap anchor including a base portion for attachment to a snowboard boot upper;
an ankle strap arrangement having a first distal end for attachment to the first strap anchor; and
a fastener device for connecting the first distal end of the ankle strap arrangement to the first strap anchor by mating with a selected mounting location.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the first strap anchor is attached to the medial side of the snowboard boot upper and a second distal end of the strap arrangement is connected to the lateral side of the snowboard boot upper.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7 further comprising a second strap anchor having a raised portion including at least three separate mounting locations and a base portion for attachment to the snowboard boot upper.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the second strap anchor is attached to the lateral side of the snowboard boot upper and a second distal end of the strap arrangement is configured for attachment to a selected mounting location of the second strap anchor.

11. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein at least one mounting location includes a sleeve for receiving a fastener device.

12. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein at least one mounting location includes a means for receiving a tool-less fastener device.

13. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the first strap anchor raised portion has a height that is equal to at least seventy-five percent of the combined thickness of at least two straps of the ankle strap arrangement.

14. (Currently Amended) A snowboard boot comprising:
an outsole;
an upper connected to the outsole;
an ankle strap arranged to overlies the upper and having first and second distal ends attached to first and second attachment locations, the ankle strap having an adjustable length;
and

at least one strap anchor that includes a raised portion containing at least three separate mounting locations and a thin base portion, the strap anchor affixed to the boot upper in at least one of the first and second attachment locations;

wherein at least one of the distal ends of the ankle strap is removably mounted to a selected mounting location of the strap anchor.

15. (Original) The snowboard boot of claim 14 further comprising a fastener device for connecting the first distal end of the ankle strap arrangement to the strap anchor by mating with a selected mounting location.

16. (Currently Amended) The snowboard boot of claim 14 further comprising a second strap anchor having a raised portion including at least three separate mounting locations and a base portion attached to the other of the first and second attachment locations.

17. (Original) The snowboard boot of claim 14 wherein at least one mounting location includes a sleeve for receiving a fastener device.

18. (Original) The snowboard boot of claim 14 wherein at least one mounting location includes a means for receiving a tool-less fastener device.

19. (Original) The snowboard boot of claim 14 wherein the strap anchor raised portion has a height that is equal to at least seventy-five percent of the combined thickness of at least two straps of the ankle strap arrangement.